

West Virginia

Ecological Services Field Office

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Robert C. Byrd (D)
Senator John D. Rockefeller IV (D)
Rep. Alan B. Mollohan (D-1st)
Rep. Shelly Moore Capito (R-2nd)
Rep. Nick Rahall (D-3rd)

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Purpose

The West Virginia Field Office works with private landowners, state and federal agencies and other members of the public to maintain, restore and enhance important fish and wildlife resources. The Fish and Wildlife Service has statutory authority or coordination rights under the following federal statutes:

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
Endangered Species Act
Migratory Bird Treaty Act
Federal Power Act
National Environmental Policy Act
Clean Water Act
Water Resources Development Act
CERCLA (Superfund)

Management Activities

- Protect federally listed threatened and endangered species
- Protect wetlands and other sensitive habitats
- Serve as the federal government's expert on fish and wildlife for federal water resource projects and permits
- Establish partnerships for habitat protection and restoration

Highlights

The West Virginia Field Office coordinates with and provides critical wildlife resource information to a number of federal, state and local agencies regarding the impacts and enhancement opportunities of a wide variety of proposed projects.

The West Virginia Field Office has been instrumental in working with state and federal partners to protect and restore native freshwater mussels and fishes, including endangered species in the Ohio, Kanawha and Elk river watersheds.

Through a highly successful partnership with private industry, the West Virginia Field Office worked to develop fish passage for American eel on the Potomac River.

The Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge and the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge were established, in part, due to the leadership and participation of the West Virginia Field Office.

Private landowners and government agencies worked with the Service to restore 25.8 acres of wetlands, 640 acres of upland forests and 8.8 miles of stream habitat.



The West Virginia Field Office has been the catalyst to promote endangered species conservation through land acquisition, habitat conservation plans and the Safe Harbor policy initiative.

Issues

Wind power development, logging and mountain top removal mining present many resource impact challenges.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
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